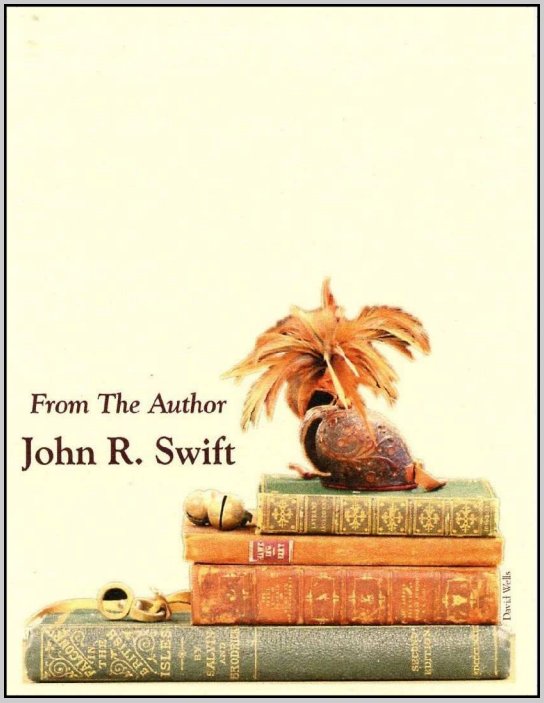
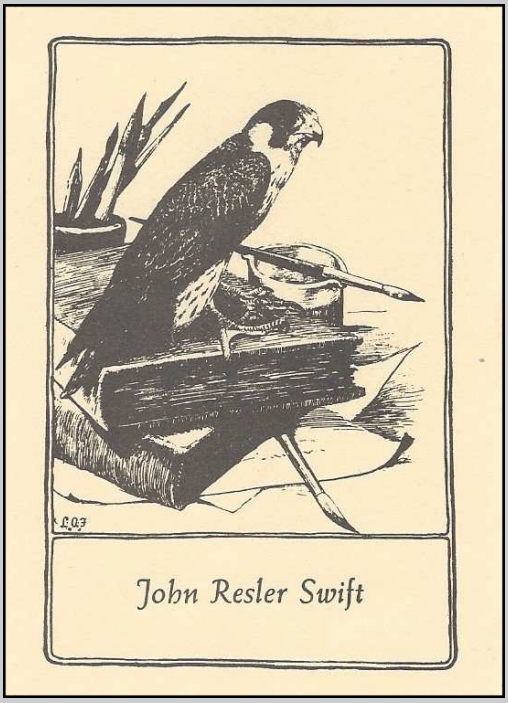
The Court-Martial of Col. Thomas Thornton

Lt.Colonel of The West York Militia

John R. Swift -Retired Curator
The Archives of Falconry





Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Thornton

John R. Swift became interested in Colonel Thomas Thornton while utilizing James Edmund Harting's *Bibliotheca Accipitraria* as a falconry book collecting guide. The Falconer's Tea Urn presented to Colonel Thornton prompted John to expand his falconry collecting to all things "Thornton". He amassed a large repository of written and pictorial evidence of Colonel Thornton's sporting activities which he utilized in his publications about Colonel Thornton. They are as follows:

Colonel Thomas Thornton Of Thornville Royal. (2014). 225 pp.
Colonel Thomas Thornton of Thornville Royal and the West York Militia. (2016). 256 pp.
The Court-Martial of Lieutenant William Wadman by Colonel Thornton, 1794. (2016). 62 pp.
The Court-Martial of Lieutenant Colonel Thornton, 1795. (2016). 66 pp.
The Memorial of Thomas Thornton Esq. by Thomas Thornton, 1796. (2016). 70 pp.
An Elucidation of a Mutinous Conspiracy by Thomas Thornton, 1800. (2016). 90 pp.

Front Cover-Colonel Thomas Thornton of the West York Militia. Courtesy of Cider House Galleries. John Russell (1745-1806) ca 1772.

Back Cover-Colonel Thomas Thornton with his Gyrfalcon *Sans Quartier*. and his Greyhound *Major*. Note the medallion entitled The Triumph of Truth presented by the ladies at Tiverton in 1795 Courtesy of Alexander Guest. Philip Reinagle (1749-1833) ca. 1795.

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Colonel Thomas Thornton And The West York Militia

Colonel Thomas Thornton had been a member in the 3rd West York Militia since 1763 when he became an Ensign. His father Colonel William Thornton helped form the original Militia during the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745. He also became a staunch advocate of the Militia as a way to help defend England while regular troops were engaged elsewhere. Three major conflicts such as The Seven Years War (1754-1763), The American Revolution 1775-1783, and The War of the French Revolution 1793-1802 kept the regular army engaged around the world. England's Militia was "embodied" or called to duty for much of these periods of conflicts. This required local militias to report for annual "musters" in different regions of the England, which were often hundreds of miles from home. These musters required a 30-day period of training for officers and men often at great inconvenience to all. The men would be quartered on the "encampment" areas while officers would be billeted in local accommodations. Colonel Thornton fulfilled his militia responsibilities for over 30 years seemingly without conflict until an incident on July 22, 1794 with a Lieutenant William Wadman. This court-martial in September 1794 seemed to lay the foundation for Colonel Thornton's own subsequent court-martial the following year on the 17th of August 1795. The copies of these various proceedings as well as Thornton's own writings on the matters appeared to have been destroyed during the bombing of York in WWII. Recently these documents have once again come to light and are included in this important military section on his life. They have been reproduced in facsimile when possible in order to provide Thornton researchers with an accurate information and depiction of the events of that period. Thornton's personal decline seems to have originated from these events. Was it a conspiracy originating from the Duke of York over Thornton's purchase of Thornville Royal four years earlier? Hopefully this information will help the readers to their own conclusion.

Colonel Thornton's full length portrait

The Court-Martial of Colonel Thomas Thornton

The proceedings of the Court-Martial of Colonel Thornton were transcribed in their entirety from what is the only copy known to exist. They are presented in a format closely resembling that of the original.

(I)

COURT MARTIAL

Copy of the Proceedings of a General Court-Martial, held at the Rutland Mess House on Burnham Down, on the 17th of August, 1795, in pursuance of an Order for that purpose from General the Duke of RICHMOND, *Commander of the District; being their unto authorized by a Warrant under his Majesties Sign Manual, for the Trial of Lieutenant-Colonel* THOMAS THORNTON, *of the 2nd Battalion of the West York Militia, upon certain Charges exhibited against him by Lieutenant-General Sir Robert* SLOPER, *K B. and continued by adjournments to the 14th of September.*

THE Officers who composed the Court-Martial were,

PRESIDENT.	Regiments of Militia
Colonel Sir John Woodhouse	*Earl Norfolk*
MEMBERS.	
Colonel Lord C. Spencer	*Oxford*
Colonel Bullock	*East Essex*
Colonel Earl Of Cork	*Somerset*
Lieutenant-Colonel Milford	*South Hants.*
Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly	*South Devon*
Lieutenant-Colonel Bradyll	*Lancaster*
Major Williams	*Shropshire*
Major Veley	*Oxford*
Major South	*South Hants.*
Major Steel	*Suffex*
Captain Toovey	*Oxford*
Captain Wise	*Warwick*
Captain Prouse	*Somerset*
Captain Woodhouse	*East Norfolk*
Captain Gouch	*Ditto*
Captain Brocas	*Berkshire*

THOMAS STOR, Judge Advocate

Before the members were sworn, the President politely asked me if there were any among them to whom I should object. I observed, in reply, that no man could have a higher opinion of the integrity or honor of the Gentleman who composed the Court, both in the individual and collective capacities, than I had; and if that had been the first time of my appearing before a Court-Martial, I must have thought myself extremely fortunate in having the members of the present Court for my Judges. But having *experienced* in former trials the fatal effects of *first impressions*, and standing in front of them, as I then did, under circumstances which clearly proved me to be the object of the most powerful and determined animosity, I could not but conceive myself in a situation which precluded all compliment, and would, I hope, excuse my exercising the privilege of EXCEPTION, not withstanding the high and undissembled opinion I had expressed of the Members of that Honorable Court: for my exceptions were

not founded on any supposed depravity of morals or principles in the members I should name, not suggested by the apprehension of their doing me *willful injustice*; but on the natural impulse of *human affections* and the known frailty of *human nature*.

Having thus premised, I objected to Colonel the Earl of CORK, and also Lieutenant Colonel BRADYLL. Though not legally required to assign my reason for doing so, I thought it proper, in point of delicacy, to make a voluntary declaration of the cause of exception; and accordingly acquainted the Court that I excepted to the Earl of CORK, because I noticed his forwardness and assiduity on the day I was drawn into camp, in aiding and counseling Lord DOWNE, whose measures on that occasion were certainly more calculated to render me obnoxious to censure, than to support military discipline, to preserve order, or to secure the tranquility of the camp: and such was my opinion of Lord DOWNE, that I should be very doubtful of obtaining justice from any man, who was so connected with him as to be accessible to his influence.

My objection to Lieutenant-Colonel BRADYLL being similar in nature, though not equal in degree, was suggested, I said, by his known intimacy with the Duke of NORFOLK, whom I conceived to be extremely averse to me in the military concerns of the West Riding of the County of York, and whose wishes I had great reason to believe were strongly interested against me in the preceding Trial.

After stating these grounds of exception, I solemnly disclaimed having any other objection to either of the Honorable Members, that could induce a moments hesitation in committing any question, however interesting or important to me, to their determination. The Earl of CORK, then rose, and addressing himself to the SENATORIAL *solemnity* to the Court, declared UPON HIS HONOR, that *he was not on the ground of the encampment at all on the day Colonel Thornton was drawn into camp*. I instantly replied, that, after so *positive* and *solemn an assertion*, I must necessarily conclude I was mistaken, and of course, withdraw my objections to LORD CORK; which I begged leave also with respect to MR. BRAYDALL, who was

about to retire. The court assented; and after a short prologue by GENERAL SLOPER, who played the part of PROSECUTOR, a Farce, called the Mountain of LABOR, was operated by Lord DOWNE, in the character of a MILITIA COLONEL.

This piece, through the *powerful* influence of the AUTHOR, had not had a run of more than three weeks without intermission; but neither the perseverance of the *Manager*, the exertion of the Performers, nor the critical display of *mummery* and *grimace*, could procure it a favorable reception. Every representation of it was received with strong marks of disapprobation and disgust by the audience, who could not be induced (*however sanctioned*) to countenance such a *burlesque* of *Justice*.

The last performance of it closed with an Epilogue, (the joint production of the principle performers) spoken by SIR JOHN WOODHOUSE, which together with the Prologue and Farce itself, is here substituted to the judgment of the Public.

The Charges exhibited against, the prisoner, were as follow:

FIRST-"For remaining absent from the 2nd Battalion of the West York Regiment of Militia, after the expiration of his leave of absence; the leave of absence granted being the 26th of July, 1795, and Lieutenant-Colonel Thornton no joining the 2nd Battalion of the West York till the 31st of July, 1795

SECOND-" For having on the 31st of July, 1795 passed along the line of encampment on Barnham Down, in a manner prejudicial to good order and military discipline, by being drawn in a carriage by soldiers of the 2nd Battalion of the West York, from the right, or nearly the right of the encampment to the left, where the 2nd battalion of the West York is encamped--the soldiers of occasionally huzzaing—and drawing the carriage between the Stand of the Colors and the Quarter Guards. "

When the above Charges had been read by Lieutenant-General SLOPER, as *Prosecutor*, he asked the PRISONER, whether he was Lieutenant Colonel of the 2nd Battalion of the West York Militia? To which the prisoner answered, I *am*.

The General then asked him, at what time he last joined the 2nd Battalion of the West York Militia? --- The Prisoner said, he arrived at Canterbury on the evening of the 30th of July 1795; but having no bed in his tent, could not go into camp til the morning of the 31st.

FIRST CHARGE

Lord Down *sworn and examined by General* SLOPER.

Did you hear any report of Colonel Thornton being at Canterbury on the evening of the 3oth of July?

I received no *official* account of the Colonel's being at Canterbury on the 30th. I received a letter from him on the Tuesday preceding: it stated, that he had set out on the 25th

from London; the before he had got out of town his carriage broke down; and it concluded by requesting that I would state the cause of his absence to General Norton, (commanding at Barnham Down) and as he had assurance from his coach-maker, the carriage could be repaired in a few hours, that he doubted not he should be enabled to join by the following Thursday, To which no objection was made.

By Colonel Thornton

Did your Lordship comply with my request, in stating to Major General Norton the cause of my absence? I shewed the letter to the Major General the morning I received it.

The Evidence for the prosecution on the first Charge was here closed.

SECOND CHARGE

Lord Downe was again called, and being desired by the prosecution to state what he knew of the subject. Of the second charge, deposed as follows. Being informed on Friday, the 31st of July, at three o'clock, that a number of the men of the West York Regiment were assembling on the right of the camp. I immediately went down and found 20 or 30 of the men going up to a carriage I saw on the road, I rode up to the carriage, and perceiving Colonel Thornton in it, begged the Colonel would persuade the men to go home; and said to the men, they should take some other opportunity of shewing their respect; to which Colonel T. replied "*Certainly*" I then ordered the men into their lines; but finding them not ready to obey. I begged the Serjent to see it was done. Col. Thornton the drove on in his carriage, and I remained behind. He had not been gone far before the soldiers went up to the carriage

again; and when they came opposite the camp, they took the horses from the carriage. I then rode up again, and after speaking to the men myself, I intreated Col. Thornton to use his endeavors to make them desist; but finding I could not accomplish my wish, Col. Thornton was drawn along the front of the lines to his tent.

The Court adjourned to the next day.

General Sloper to Lord Downe.

Does you Lordship recollect what Col. Thornton said, when you entreated him to use his endeavors to make the men desist from drawing his carriage? —I cannot recollect the precise words, which Col. Thornton gave me in answer, but the purport of them was, that he did what he could but it was not in his power to prevent them.

By General Sloper.

Did Colonel Thornton make every exertion as a military man to prevent them? —I did not see him make any exertion to prevent them.

By Colonel Thornton.

Did I tell you in the language of an Officer and a Gentleman, as soon as I found you to be Lord Downe, that, not expecting to see you in the uniform of the West York, *I was to apologize for what might otherwise be considered as neglect?* — When I came close to the carriage you said, Oh, I beg your Lordship's pardon—It is my Lord Downe.

Was my conduct on that occasion that of an Officer and a Gentleman? –As a Gentleman perfectly so; but as an officer, I saw you do nothing,

When you say I did nothing, does your Lordship mean to imply, that I did not say any

thing to the men or you on the occasion? –I did not hear you say any thing to the men, to me you said something certainly.

Do you not recollect that I repeatedly told you it was not my wish to be drawn in any carriage by the men, and that I requested your assistance as Colonel to prevent them? --I do not.

By General Sloper.

Did you not hear the men huzza? –(Col T. admitted that the men did huzza.)

Lieut. Georg Skyring.

On Friday, the 31st of July last, when I was in the Artillery-street, I heard a noise on the right of the camp. I went down, and saw a number of soldiers of the West York regiment leading two horses, which I was informed were Col. Thornton's, and several of the men of the West York drew the carriage along the road, occasionally huzzaing.

Did you see Col. Thornton make any exertions to prevent them? – No.

By Colonel Thornton.

At what distance were you from the carriage? --Two hundred yards or more.

At the distance you were from the carriage, might I not have made exertions both by words and actions which you might not have heard nor seen? – Most undoubtedly.

Captain Newton, of the Somerset.

About three weeks ago, I heard a most unusual noise in the camp. I went out of my tent to see what it was. I saw a number of soldiers of the West York drawing a carriage, which I understood was Colonel Thornton's:

as they passed the line of the Somerset Fencible Calvary the men huzzaed; the officer in the carriage took off his hat.

By Lieut. Colonel Thornton.

What distance might you be from the carriage when this happened? – About one hundred yards and on the highest piece of ground in our encampment.

Might I possibly be saluting you or some other officer then? –Certainly not me. I cannot answer the other part of the question; there were many officers near the carriage.

Coronet Dupont, of the Somerset.

When I returned from duty on the 31st of July last, I heard a hollowing and huzzaing in the front of the encampment. I immediately went down, and saw this Gentleman (Lieut. Colonel Thornton) drawn in an open carriage; the men that were drawing the carriage huzzaed two or three times; the gentleman, who was in regimentals, took off his hat when the last huzzah was given. The carriage passed on between the camp colors and the quarter guards.

When the last huzzah was given, how far were you from the carriage? –About thirty-five yards.

How far when the first was given? –About twenty-five yards, or rather less.

How near the standard guard of the Somerset Fencibles? – I cannot say how near; the carriage was twenty-five yards or less from the camp colors, where I was standing.

Did pulling off the hat, as stated in the evidence, appear to you a compliment to the Officers present? – It did not.

(11)

By the Prisoner

Might there not be other officers or sentinels behind you on that occasion, when I might be saluting, or to whom I might be saluting or to whom I might be returning salutes? --I cannot speak for officers. As to sentinels, they were repeatedly desired not to salute you.

Was you informed that I was coming into camp? –I was informed you were coming into camp, but not in the manner you did come.

Who informed you? –I do not recollect.

Did you know from my uniform, and from what you had heard, that I was a Field Officer? --From what I heard, I did not—from what I saw, I did not—as I did not notice the epaulets [rank insignia].

Did you know that I was Lieutenant Colonel Thornton? –I never saw Lieut. Colonel Thornton before in my life, to my knowledge.

Did you know from what you saw and what you heard, that I was Colonel Thornton?--From what I had heard, I certainly did.

From what authority did you order your sentinels not to salute Lieutenant Colonel Thornton? –From my own authority, Sir.

Had you no intimation from, or correspondence with any other officers, which might induce you to prevent your sentinels from performing that part of their duty (viz.) saluting a Field Officer? —No. Sir!

At what time did you tell your sentinels not to salute me? –At the huzzaing; almost during the time of it.

Am I to presume, that you ordered your sentinels not to salute me in consequence of the huzzaing? –Yes.

Lieutenant Homer, of the South Hants.

I believe it was on the 31st July last, that a great number of the men of the West York came across the quarter guard; I enquired where they were going in such numbers; they said they were going to meet Colonel Thornton. Soon afterwards I saw an officer and another man in an open carriage; when the men drew the carriage they frequently huzzaed.

Where was the carriage drawn? –In the front of the colors and in the rear of the quarter guard.

Were there no other soldiers but those of the York who drew the carriage or whom you heard huzza? –I do not recollect.

Do you believe, or did you see there were others? –I don't recollect.

Lieutenant Gartside, Somerset.

I was on the quarter guard of the Somerset on the 31st July last, I believe about one o'clock in the afternoon, sitting in the quarter guard tent, when I heard a noise. I called to the Serjent of the guard to know what the noise was; I was answered it was Colonel Thornton coming into camp; I believe there were some persons talking with me in the tent; I went to the rear of the quarter guard, when I saw two gentleman, (one in regimentals) drawn in a carriage, by men whom I believe were in the uniform of the West York. The carriage passed on, and I took no further notice of it.

Where was the carriage drawn from? –It was drawn between the rear of the quarter guard and the camp colors.

Colonel Thornton.

I admit being drawn.

Captain Spicer, South Devon

I can't recollect the day Colonel Thornton came into camp, but I believe about the time stated in the charge. I was at a house about half a mile from camp, and hearing a very great noise at camp. I rode immediately up to see what the noise was, when I was informed it was Col. Thornton drawn in his carriage of the right of the West York, where I remained till Col. T. came to some tent there; coming up the street of the West York, the soldiers huzzaed several times, on which Col. Thornton pulled off his hat, and made a kind of bow; when the carriage stopped at the tent, he stood up in it with his hat off, and said something to the men, but I was not near enough to hear what it was he said.

To that regiment did the men who drew Colonel Thornton belong? To the West York, I saw no other soldiers.

How was the carriage drawn? –I believe along the front of the south Hants quarter guard; whether in front or the rear of the quarter guard I did not see.

Might not I, when I pulled off my hat, be saluting sentries, or officers at a distance?--In the place where I was you could not saluting sentinels, but as to officers I can't pretend to say you were not, but I believe you were saluting the men for the compliment they paid you.

Where was the exact spot in which you saw me pull off my hat? -In the grand street between

the left of the South Devon, and right of the West York?

Was it in the middle of the street, or in what other part? –I believe near the center.

Were you on horseback or on foot? –On horseback.

Might there not have been then behind you officers or sentinels, that might have been saluting me, and you not see then? –There could not be any sentinels in the place. I first remarked you to pull off your hat; but there might be officers for what I know.

Might I not, as I was elevated in a carriage, see sentinels and others, who might see me in that situation, and you perfectly ignorant whether they were saluting me or not? –You might from your situation certainly have seen sentinels on the flanks, but I do not conceive that you were returning a salute, as they do not pay the compliment at a great distance.

What distance might there be between me and the nearest sentinel? – I can't exactly say how many feet or yards, but about midway between the grant street and the front of the right.

Thought you did not hear me address the soldiers from my carriage, when it stopped opposite to my marquee, did they not immediately go away in a peaceable manner? –They did.

By the Court.

What street does the witness mean by the grand street? –I mean the officer's street, the street between the officers and subaltern's tents.

What number of soldiers might there be collected at this time? –A considerable number, but how many I cannot pretend to say.

(15)

By the Court

Were there no other soldiers than those of the West York present, who occasionally drew the carriage? –I did not remark any.

At any time when the soldiers were drawing the carriage, did you see any officers near the carriage? –I perceived one officer at that time; there might be more officers, I did not see them.

Lieutenant Spicer, South Devon.

I do not recollect the day, but about three weeks ago I was in my tent, and I heard some persons say, that the right of the camp was cover with green facings, and that the West York men were assembled to draw Col. Thornton into camp. I then went to the right of the line, to see what was going on; when about the front of the Lancashire dragoons, I saw a crowd of soldiers collected together; as they approached me, I saw the prisoners drawn in a carriage by the men, the horses being taken out. When they came near where I was, the soldiers were shouting and huzzaing, and I believe there were some of the Lancashire, or of some other regiment, I believe the Somerset dragoons, on the left, who joined in the shouting: I was afraid that kind of conduct might spread through the lines of the regiment I belong to in order to prevent it, I then passed on to Colonel Thornton's tent, where I saw him go out of his carriage.

Did you see Colonel Thornton *take off his hat?* —Yes

Did you conceive, when he took off his hat, it was as a mark of approbation to the soldiers, or was it taken off to officers or any other persons?

I can't say whether it was to any officers; but I should conceive it was a mark of approbation to the soldiers for drawing him.

By the Prisoner.

Has you any idea, before I came into camp, that the soldiers of the West York, or any others, intended to pay me some mark of attention and respect?—I had often heard that the West York men, but no others, attend you into camp in your carriage.

Were there any soldiers than those you mentioned who joined in the huzzas? –Not to my recollection.

Do you believe there were any others? –As I did not see any, I do not believe there were any others.

When you saw me arrive at my tent, did the soldiers disperse peacefully? –Soon afterwards they dispersed peaceably.

What distance were you from my curricle when I took off my hat? –To the best of my recollections, about 20 to 30 yards.

Lieutenant Thomas, South Devon.

To the best of my recollection, on the 31st of July last, when I was standing in the lines of the Devon Militia. I saw a number of soldiers belonging to the West York regiment running towards the right of the encampment, I walked down to the front to enquire the cause of it. I was informed then by some of the men of the West York regiment whom I passed, that their Lieutenant-Colonel was coming into camp to join the regiment. I walked a little towards the left of the high ground. I then looked towards the right, and saw a carriage coming in the front of the

Somerset Militia, with two men in it, one in regimentals, and the other in a plain dress. I was afterwards informed that the one in regimentals was the Lieutenant-Colonel of the West York. When the carriage came nearly opposite the right of the Somerset, he took off his hat, and waived it round two or three times. The soldier's huzzaing, he repeated it a second time, nearly opposite the center of Devon; and again the third time, to the best of my recollection, between the left of the Devon, and the right of the York. I took every step to prevent the men of the Devon from joining the West York men, conceiving it my duty to do so.

Was there any other than the men of the West York who drew the carriage? –I did not see any other, there might have been others in the crowd.

Had you any intimation that the soldiers of the West York intended to pay me some respect? -- Not any.

Did you take any step to inform the Field Officer of the day? --I did not.

How long have you been in the service? About twenty-five years.

Who was the Field Officer of the day? –I do not recollect.

What distance was I from you when I took off my hat? --I do not know the exact distance.

Did you see me take any steps, or hear me attempt to prevent the soldier from drawing me into camp? –I did not.

Was you near my carriage when it stopped at my marquee? –I was not.

(18)

Major Burland

On the 31st of July last, the day on which there was a disturbance in the rear of the camp, I was Field Officer of the picquet. I was going down from the officers' street in the pursuance of the orders of General Adean, to order a detachment of the piquet to be mounted; when I was informed that Colonel Thornton was coming into camp with part of his regiment. I heard a considerable noise, and looking to the right, I saw a number of the men of the West York drawing two gentlemen in a carriage, one of whom was in the regimentals of the West York, and I was informed it was Colonel Thornton; I did not see them at all till they were near the center of the Lancashire fencibles. When they came near the center of our front, I went down to them, and told them to this effect, that what ever disturbance they chose to make in their own regiment, they must not make any in our lines. Some of the men nearest to me put their hands to their hats, and said very civilly they would not make any disturbance. They proceeded, making very little noise, and with a few spectators to the right of the encampment; when they came nearly opposite the flank of the South Hants, great numbers of the infantry ran down. A great shouting ensued, and I observed Colonel Thornton taking off his hat with his left hand, in the mode of an officer's saluting, but whether it was meant to the sentry on the right flank, or to the crowd who shouted, I cannot possibly say, I saw the carriage go up the lines at some distance, I then returned to the picquet.

When you observed a great number of infantry run down nearly opposite the right flank of the South

Hants, can you inform the Court to what regiment the belonged? –I think from their situation, the greater number which I saw must belong to the South Hants, but numbers from the whole line of infantry were pouring down to assist; as the report of the procession was conveyed towards the left of the rear, Lord Cork had given orders that the men should not go out of their lines.

By Colonel Thornton.

Was you, Sir, field officer of the day? –A. I was Col. T. –Sir, I beg leave to give you my thanks for your candor.

The Evidence for the Prosecution was here closed.

The Prosecutor having closed his evidence, Colonel THORNTON was called on for his defence: He addressed the Court in a suitably pertinent speech, in which he occasionally adverted to the persecution of his former Prosecutors, who, notwithstanding the variety of Charges formerly exhibited against him and which had been the subject of SEVEN Courts Martial, and although he had been honorably acquitted from such charges, still he was pursued by the malignant spirit of jealousy.

After apologizing to the Court, and expressing his sorrow at the frivolity of the charges against him thus, and had detained them so long, he called

Lieutenant Briggs, Monmouth.

Were you perfectly aware of the leave of absence I had from the Duke of York? –Yes, you informed me of it.

Can you say, of your own knowledge, that every exertion was made, on my part, respecting my private concerns, (of those great moment)

travelling day and night 600 miles in eight days, or thereabouts, to comply with that leave?—I know that you neglected a number of your concerns, and that you travelled night and day to be in London by the time.

Do you know, of your own knowledge, that on my arrival in London, after waiting on the Duke of York, I found it necessary to go to the Duke of Richmond, *for obtaining leave till the 26th of July last?* —I don't know; but I heard you say that had been at the Duke of York's, and that you found it necessary to go to the Duke of Richmond.

Do you recollect what was that occasion? — No, I do not.

Do you recollect my telling you that it was necessary for me to be in camp by the 26th of July? –Perfectly well*: several times.*

Do you recollect my wishing you to give me every assistance in forwarding what camp equipage I had, to Barham Downs?—Yes, you desired me to forward it from Deptford to Barham Downs.

Had I not made every exertion for forwarding my military concerns? –Certainly.

What do you know of my carriage breaking down? You desired me, in London, to get myself ready by six o'clock in the morning, on Friday, (I think it was the 25th of July) to join the regiment on Barham Downs. I was to go in a post-chaise, and you in your curricle: I was ready by that time, but you came and informed me that you had met with an accident. I asked you what that was. You told me that a dray cart or a dray waggon, had broken your curricle. I asked you if you could get it mended; you said you could, and that the instant it was mended

you would follow me, and desired me to order dinner at Dartford.

Do you recollect my mentioning any thing about a letter? --Yes, a letter to Lord Downe.

Please to relate what you know of that letter, at Mr. --------'s lodgings in London. ---- Colonel Thornton wrote a letter to Lord Downe, which he desired me to deliver to Lord Downe as soon as I should arrive at camp; when I went to my own lodgings to take leave of a friend, I forgot the letter, and never thought of it till I was near Dartford; fortunately I knew very nearly the contents of it. Upon my arrival in Canterbury, I wrote to Lieutenant Bracken, of the West York, who was then in camp, to request of him to acquaint Lord Downe with the accident of my losing the letter, and to inform his Lordship of the contents of it, which were, that Colonel Thornton's curricle had broken down, and that he should come down to camp the instant it was repaired.

Did you afterwards find the letter? –When I returned to London, I found it in my lodgings.

By General Sloper

You said that Colonel Thornton *made use of every exertion to get down to camp; I beg to know what these exertions were?* ---Colonel Thornton desired to me to get up at six in the morning, to be ready to go with him. In the morning, the Colonel came, and told me he was going to the coach maker's about his curricle, and he said he would not for £1000, it had met with the accident at the time; and he said several other things which induced me to believe he was extremely anxious to get down to camp. I had business of great consequence myself in London,

and wished to stay and finished it, but which the Colonel would not give me time to do.

On what day of the month did the curricle break down? –To the best of my knowledge, it was on the day I set off from town to come down to camp, which I believe was Saturday.

By General Sloper.

Are you aware there would have been any difficulty for Col. Thornton *to have joined his regiment by some other conveyance as his curricle was broken?* –I suppose he might, if he chose.

By the Court.

Do you believe the Col. Thornton *would have taken another mode of conveyance to camp, if the coach maker had not assured him that he should have his curricle in a few hours, and that he would not have allowed you to go without him?* —Certainly.

By the Prisoner

Do you think that without that assurance I would have gone in the chaise with you, or in some other carriage? –I believe you would.

When did you arrive at Canterbury? –On Sunday evening, the 26th of July, about six o'clock the day after I set out from town.

Did you sleep on the road? –I did, at Gravesend, because I could not get post horses on to Rochester.

By the Court.

Do you recollect whether Colonel Thornton made any other exertions to join his regiment by the 26th of July, that those you mentioned yesterday? – Colonel Thornton went to several parts of the town to settle some business, that might be ready to go down that morning at six o'clock, and as a proof he wished me to join in time, he

sent his own servant with me, and, I believe all the linen he had in London; so that he had no opportunity to change his linen till he came to Canterbury.

W. Martin, Servant to Colonel Thornton.

Did not my curricle run between two dray carts in Piccadilly? Yes, Sir it did, which endangered you very much.

What time was it? –I can't rightly recollect, but I believe it was a day or two before we set off for camp.

Did my curricle break down? – I did.

Was I not much distressed on that occasion? –Yes, very much.

Did you not frequently, by my orders, go to the Coach-maker's to hurry the repairing of it? – Yes, very often, with and without your orders; you were very much out of temper at its not being repaired.

Did not my valet go forward on that day, and was I not without the use of him during all the time my curricle was repairing of it? –Yes, Sir.

Did you recollect the day that the first accident happened to the curricle? –Not exactly, but I believe it was the 21st or 22nd of July.

Where did it happen? – In Westminster.

Isaac Terry, lately a servant to Mr. Tattersall, of the Turf Tavern, corner of Hyde-Park.

Were you at the Turf Tavern on or about the 25th of July, when I was setting out on a journey with my curricle loaded? –Yes. Sir.

Did you know where I was going? –Your coachman told me you were going to Barnham Downs Camp, and I heard you say yourself two or

three days before, to several Gentlemen in the yard, that you were going to Barnham Downs Camp.

Were you at the Turf Tavern when my carriage came back broken? –I was.

Major-General Norton.

Did my Lord Downe, *as Colonel of the West York Regiment, state to you that he had received a letter from me, dated on or about the 25th of July, in which I said an accident had happened to my carriage, and that as soon as it was repaired I should set out for Camp?* –My Lord Downe put a letter of yours into my hand, to the best of my recollection, to that effect.

What day did my Lord Down shew that letter to you?—I cannot say, it was the day the brigade was under arms, and I immediately put it into General Sloper's hand. I rather think it was on Tuesday.

What days are the brigades under arms? – Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

By General Sloper.

Did you receive any letter from me, dated that 1st of August? –I received a letter from you, but I do not recollect the date of it. It was the day on which Colonel Thornton was put under arrest. (The letter was produced, and the date of it appeared to be the 1st of August.

By the Court.

Did the letter which my Lord Downe put into your hand, from Colonel Thornton, enclose one from a Coach maker? –Certainly.

[End of the Evidence on the part of the Defendant to the fist Charge.]

SECOND CHARGE

After the Prosecutor's Evidence on the Second Charge exhibited against Lieutenant-Colonel Thornton was concluded, Colonel Thornton addressed the Court as follows:

Mr. President and Gentleman of this Honorable Court,

The evidence in support of my defence to the first Charge being closed, permit me, before I enter upon my evidence to the second, to request your indulgence, for a few minutes only, whilst I state to you the general circumstances of the Defence which I am now about to make.

Gentlemen, it is far from my intention or wish to trespass upon that indulgence which I have liberally experienced from you during the progress of this Trial, by detailing any facts which are not strictly relevant to the Charge now before you; be assured, therefore that I shall carefully avoid urging anything on this occasion that does not immediately hone to the second Charge, and what I know I have clearest and most unquestionable evidence to establish; for I am convinced that a fair and unequivocal statement of the circumstances attending my coming into camp and of my conduct in the midst of those circumstances, is the best defence I can possibly offer---a defence which I have no doubt will impress upon the minds of every Member of this Court, the complete belief and conviction of my innocence.

On the 31st of July last, I was coming from Canterbury in my curricle, accompanied by

Lieutenant Briggs, to join my regiment in this encampment. When we arrived at some little distance from the park of artillery, on the turnpike road, a great number of the soldiers of my regiment were assembled, and drawn up across the road, waiting my arrival, and with intention, I believe, of shewing me some mark of respect. When I came upon them, they received me with evident marks of satisfaction, they then declared, in their rude, but well-intentioned manner, that they would take my horses from the carriage, and draw me into camp. Upon which I remonstrated with them, and told them, that such conduct would be improper; that I was well convinced of their attachment to me; and the best way they could show it on that occasion, would be to walk peaceably on each side of the carriage, and conduct me in that manner to my tent. This the men seemed inclined to do, and I was proceeding in my carriage, when my Lord Downe came riding up, and after the usual salutation had passed between his Lordship and me, his Lordship begged I would persuade the men to disperse: upon which I said, I should do everything in my power to meet his Lordship's wishes. My Lord Downe then rode off from the carriage to my Lord Corke, who was on the ground at some little distance. In the mean time I told the men not to attempt to take my horses from the carriage, as I should not suffer them to draw me. They were permitting me to proceed; and at this time my Lord Downe returned from Lord Cooke, and rode among them and against my curricle with considerable violence. This irritated the men so extremely, that they swore

they would not be prevented drawing their Lieutenant Colonel to this tent; they then snatched the reins from my hands and proceeded to take out the horses. My Lord Downe and myself were doing everything in our power to prevent them; I repeatedly whipped the horses, and I believe some of the men, to prevent me from being drawn, but to no purpose. The horses were then out, and the men drew me along the lines to my marquee, occasionally huzzaing as they proceeded. When I arrived at my tent, I desired the men to disperse quietly and go to their tents, which they *immediately did.*

Thus, Gentleman, have I given you a brief, but faithful detail of the circumstances attending my coming into camp, and of my conduct on that occasion. I shall now proceed to call a number of very respectable witnesses to establish these facts; and having done that, I have no doubt but you will give my defence a fair and impartial consideration, and that you will pronounce that verdict which innocence demands of justice, and which, on this occasion, I am conscious of deserving of –NOT GUILTY.

Major-General Norton's Evidence.

Do you remember my having waite upon you nearly after my arrival in camp on the 31st of July last? —I remember you called upon me immediately almost after your arrival in camp.

Do you remember that I stated to you unfortunate it was for the service how contrary it was to my wishes, that there should have been the misunderstanding between the Officers of the West York and myself, which had so long convulsed that regiment or words to that effect?

they wished to take the horses from the curricle, and you begged of them to desist, which they did; at the same time you desired them to walk peaceably to their tents, which they seemed inclined to do. At that time, Lord Downe came up and spoke to you. You then asked me who he was. I said. I supposed it was Lord Downe. Immediately you bowed to him, and made an apology; and said you had not the honor of knowing his Lordship at first sight, never expecting to see him in that uniform. Lord Downe made a bow, and to the best of my knowledge then went to consult Lord Corke. After that, my Lord Downe returned in a very hasty manner, and desired the soldiers to go to their tents; on which the soldiers said they would draw Colonel Thornton; and I believe the words they made use of were "in spite of any man's teeth." Colonel Thornton remonstrated very much, and so did Lord Downe, but it had no effect; and so did Lord Downe, but it had no effect; the horses were taken out, and the men drew Colonel Thornton to his tent.

In what way were the soldiers standing i=on the turnpike road? –I should suppose they were totally across the road, in a solid column, seven or eight men deep, to meet you.

Was there any want of respect to my orders shewn by the soldiers on my first meeting them? -- Not the least.

Did you see any want of respect in my conduct towards Lord Downe, either by words or actions? –Quite the contrary.

In what manner did Lord Downe ride down to the soldiers? – The second time, in a very hasty manner.

What did he do? – He rode amongst the men, and did every thing in his power to prevent them from taking the horse out of the carriage.

Did you see Lord Downe do anything else on that occasion? – He came down in a great haste, rode against the carriage, and nearly broke it.

Were any of the men in danger? –Certainly they were.

As I passed the lines, did the sentries salute me? –Yes.

Did I return the salute? –Yes you took off your hat.

Did you see me at any time, instigate, by waiving my hat, or in any other way, the soldiers to draw me in? –I saw you take off your hat to Major Smith and the sentinels, but never waive it.

Did I return the salutes to any other officers? –I can't recollect; but you took off your hat two or three times.

Were there other soldiers, besides those of the West York that assisted in drawing the carriage? –There were other soldiers in different uniforms in the crowd; and I saw one in particular, in a different uniform who assisted in drawing the carriage.

Were there not a number pushing the carriage behind, as well as those that were drawing it? –I don't know.

Did you remind me from time to time to return the salutes of the officers? –I did.

When I arrived at my tent, do you remember my returning salutes to the sentries? I do not.

Did I wave my hat, to inspire the soldiers? – I saw you take off your hat to a soldier on duty, but I did not see him present his arms.

What did I say to the soldier, when I stopped at my tent? –You desired them to disperse and go to their tents, which they immediately did.

How long have you been in the army and militia? --I have been in the army six years and the militia three years.

Cross-examined by General Sloper.

In your evidence you have stated, that, at the time that Colonel Thornton arrived at about 100 yards from the park of artillery, a number of soldiers were standing on the turnpike road, in such a manner that he curricle could not pass: Of what regiment were those soldiers? –Of the West York; and to the best of my knowledge, there were other men in a different uniform.

Did you write to Sargent Armstrong, or to a man of the name of Deacon, of the West York Militia?—Yes, I believe to both; but I recollect to Deacon perfectly.

Did I purport of that letter in any manner tend to give information of the time it was likely that Colonel Thornton would arrive at Camp?— Deacon or Armstrong left his name at the in Canterbury, where I was, and that they wished to see Colonel Thornton. I wrote the letter to inform them that Colonel T. would be in Camp some day shortly; but Colonel T. knew nothing of the letter that I know of.

In the course of your evidence, you have mentioned that Lord Downe *rode up to the carriage a second time. Were the horses taken from the curricle before the second arrival of* Lord Downe, *or at the period of his arrival?* – I believe the men were attempting to take off the horses, but were not determined to take them off till Lord Downe came up; but upon recollection, I am perfectly sure the horses were not taken off till Lord Downe came up a second time.

On the second arrival of Lord Downe, *did you hear him speak to the soldiers?* –Yes. I did.

What did he say? –His lordship desired them to desist from taking the horses from the curricle; and Colonel Thornton also struck two or three of the soldiers with his whip, to prevent them from drawing him into camp, and they both made use of every argument to dissuade the soldiers form drawing the curricle.

What were the words, which you call arguments he made use of, and which could not gain obedience? –I cannot positively swear to the words, but I will positively swear, that both Lord Downe and Colonel T. did everything in their power to prevent the soldiers from drawing the curricle.

You have stated in you evidence, that the soldiers, in spite of any man's teeth. These words appear to be so extremely improper for soldier to use, that I beg you will say whether there is not a possibility of your being mistaken as to the strength of your words? –I have every reason to believe the men used the words to that purport; but

in the hurry and confusion, I might be mistaken: I know they said they would draw Colonel T. into camp. And made use of very strong language expressive of their determination.

You have said in your evidence, that Colonel Thornton never waived his hat—do you mean on your oath positively to say, that Lieut. Col. T. never did waive his hat during the time the soldiers were drawing him, --or that you did not see him? —I will never swear positively that he never did wave his hat, but he could not wave his hat without my seeing him, because I had my eye constantly upon him; and the reason that I paid such attention was, because Colonel T. had desired me to be particularly watchful of his conduct.

On which side of Colonel Thornton did you sit? –On the left.

As you passed along the line in the curricle, were the sentries you observed to salute Colonel Thornton, on your left, or on your right? –On the left.

It would rather appear, that when you were looking to the left, and observing the salute of the sentries, that you could not, at a time, positively affirm what Col. Thornton was doing. If you can clear that matter, I will thank you to do it? –If I could see Col. Thornton take off his hat to the sentries and the officers as he passed them, I most undoubtedly, from the strict attention which I paid to Col. Thornton, must have seen him take off his hat, and wave it two or three time, if he had done so; but so far from it, I never saw Col. Thornton take off his hat saluting, but when he was either opposite some sentinel or Officer.

After the horses were taken from the carriage, did Col. Thornton make any efforts to get out of it, previous to his arrival at the West York Militia? –I did not see him make any efforts to get out; the carriage went very swift over very rugged ground; I cannot conceive how he possibly could have got out, as the men were all round the carriage, he must have leaped on the men's shoulders; and very possibly they would have carried him on their shoulders.

Were their no stops made during the drawing of the carriage? –To the best of my knowledge they were not.

Whilst the horses were a taking out, was the carriage in motion? –At that time, Colonel Thornton was talking to Lord Downe.

By the Court.

Could the carriage stop without your knowing of it? –At Col. Thornton's desire, I paid such strict attention to his conduct, that I took but little notice of the carriage.

As the carriage went over very rugged ground, could your perceive whether the carriage was going to be stopped? –Yes; but to the best of my belief it did not stop, except when the horses were taking out, and at Colonel Thornton's marquee.

At what particular time did Colonel Thornton request you to pay particular attention to his conduct? –When the men first came up.

As you seemed to have paid so much attention to Colonel Thornton's conduct, did you

observe him, upon his arrival in the lines of the encampment, continue with his hat off longer than the ordinary time for saluting a person in passing? –No, certainly.

Lieutenant Armstrong, Somerset.

By Colonel Thornton

Did you see me come into camp on the 31st on July last? –I saw you come into camp and I believe it was on the 31st of July last.

Be pleased to relate what you saw and heard on that occasion? –As to what I saw; I saw two gentleman coming in a carriage along the turnpike road; and I saw a number of men of the West York go up to the carriage, and salute one of the gentleman in it; an dafter the men turned and ran with the carriage, I saw them take the horses off. When they were taking the horses off, I saw Lord Corke and Lord Downe conversing about ten yards off the carriage: I then saw the carriage drawn into camp; the carriage passed from me.

Did you on that occasion, hear me say anything? –I was a good way off the carriage, and could not distinctly hear what was said.

Did you at any time see me salute either officers or sentries? –I saw you salute, and it appeared to me to be the men who had saluted me to be the men who had saluted you as they passed the curricle.

Did you see me at any time take off my hat and wave it round my head, as if encouraging the soldier to draw on my curricle? –I did not see you at any time wave your hat.

Had I waved my hat at any time round my head, should you not have seen me? –Between the Park of Artillery and the West York Regiment, there are some hollows, and in those hollows I could not see you, as I lost sight of the curricle, and, of course, I could not see what passed.

Cross-examined by General Sloper

Whereabouts were you when Colonel Thornton passed the South Devon lines? –I was either in the front of the Artillery, or in the front of the Regiment of Cavalry; I was walking along.

What distance do you suppose you were from the curricle when it passed by the Devon lines? –I cannot say; not a mile, but more than a quarter of a mile; I cannot say what distance with exactness.

Is not the South Devon encamped in a hollow, or the greater part of it? –The right side of it appears to me on the side of a hill.

You have said that Lord Corke and Lord Downe were conversing at about 100 yards from Colonel Thornton's curricle at the time the horses were taken from the curricle; did you observe when Lord Downe came from the situation up to Colonel Thornton's curricle? –I did.

How long might it be before he arrived before the horses began to be taken off? –He rode immediately from Lord Corke to the curricle.

Were the horses from or to the curricle at the time of Lord Downes arrival? –I think they were from the curricle.

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At what place was the curricle going at when you saw it coming along the road? –I think the horse were in a trot.

What pace did the curricle go at when the men turned, and went with it? –The men were obliged to run to keep up with it.

Did you observe the men draw the curricle before Lord Downe came to them? –I think they were drawing it.

Just before the horses were taken from the curricle, might not Colonel Thornton have drove on without the soldiers of the West York preventing him? –I do not know whether he could or not.

What number of men met Colonel Thornton first on the turnpike road? –At first he appeared to me to be met by three men.

Did the curricle stop at any time before you saw the horses taken off? –When Lord Corke and Lord Downe were in conversation, I saw a private of the West York run with great violence and seize on of the traces, and immediately all the rest of the men ran up and assisted him in taking off the horses.

Did the curricle stop at any time from the time you first saw it till the time the horses were taken off? —There were, I dare say, seven or eight deep, or more on the road.

Did you conceive that one private man could have stopped the curricle, if the driver had been determined to go on, before the other men came up to assist: had the driver in the interval to drive off?

The men appeared to me to me to join in assisting one private before the drive perceived the traces to be seized.

Did you observe what occasioned the stopping of the curricle? –I could not exactly see the cause of its stopping, the men being so high about.

At what distance were you from it when it stopped? – I believe about 100 yards.

Can you say distinctly how long the curricle had stopped before you saw Lord Downe come to it? – About a minute and a half, or two minutes, not more.

Corporal BRAMMER-Royal Artillery

Did you see me come into camp on the 31st of July last? –Yes, Sir.

Please relate to the Court what you saw and heard on that occasion? –I saw a number of men of the West York regiment clear away beyond the park of artillery; then I saw you coming in carriage, and other gentlemen with you in colored cloths; the soldiers of the York then seized the reins of horses, and stopped them by force; you struck at the men with your whip two or three different times, and then Lord Downe rode up and galloped amongst the soldiers; Lord Downe rode up to make the men disperse from the carriage; he rode with such a hurry, that I thought he would have drove the carriage over, speaking to Colonel Thornton at the same time, and asking him why he did not make the soldiers disperse. Colonel T. told him that he could not do it, and said he would be very thankful if Lord Downe would make them disperse for him.

Lord Downe said Col. Thornton might make the men disperse if he would; upon which Colonel T. struck three times at the soldiers; then Lord Downe rode off, and the soldiers took the horses from the carriage, and hurried Colonel T. and the other gentleman forward. Then Lord Downe met him a second time, and desired the soldiers to disperse; the soldiers told his lordship that they would disperse when they had got Colonel T. to his tent, Colonel T. desired the soldiers to disperse and go to their tents, which accordingly they did.

Did you see Lord Downe ride up to any officer? –I saw him ride up with Lord Corke.

Did you perceive the sentries salute me as I passed? I did.

Did you, at any time, see me take off my hat, and waive it round my head? –I did not.

Has I done so, do you think you should have seen it? –Yes, I do.

How near might you be to me during the whole of the procession, from the right of the line, till I stopped at my tent? I never was above ten yards distance all the way.

Do you remember to have seen the soldiers drawn up I a regular manner across the road to meet me? –No.

Cross-examined by General SLOPER

How came you to follow Colonel Thornton from the artillery to which you belonged? –I was then a private in the West York regiment.

Was you behind or before? —I was rather behind the carriage.

Were you one of those who went to meet Colonel Thornton? –I went to meet him, but not on purpose to draw him in.

Had you any intimation about what time Colonel Thornton was to arrive at Camp? –No, I never had.

When you saw a number of men of the West York go from the left of the encmpment, behind the park of artillery, where did they first stop to meet Colonel Thornton? At about a hundred yards beyond the park of artillery, as near as I can recollect.

Did you hear Colonel Thornton say any thing to the men, to persuade the, to desist fro drawing him? –Yes.

What? – He desired them to let the horses go peaceably into camp; and they told him they would take his horse out, and draw him themselves in a peaceable manner into camp. Col. T. bade them desist, but they would not; and therefore he struck at them with his whip.

Corporal SWORDS, Royal Artillery

Did you command the guard of Artillery on the 31st of July last? –Yes.

Did you see me come into camp on that day? —Yes.

Relate to the Court what you saw on that day? –I saw a carriage coming towards the camp; there was a number of soldiers stopped the carriage, and they took the horses out; at the time the soldiers were taking out the horse, I saw Colonel Thornton make the last with his whip two or three times; the soldiers proceeded still to draw the carriage along the line of the encampment. When the carriage came to the left of the artillery, I saw Lord Downe ride up very hastily among the

soldiers, and speak to Colonel Thornton. I could not hear at that distance what he said; and the soldiers stopped for about a minutes; I think then they proceeded along the encampment with the carriage. I did not take any more notice, as they had passed my guard, and I saw no more of them.

Cross-examined.

When Lord Downe rode hastily up, was the carriage then drawn by men? –Yes, It was.

Did those men stop the carriage when Lord Downe came up? –Lord Downe rode so hastily up, that the men could not get forward with the carriage.

Was it in consequence of Lord Downe's riding up hastily that the carriage was stopped, or in obedience to his orders? –I cannot say positively; I rather think it was on account of his riding so hastily up, that they could not get on.

Was that the first time you saw Lord Downe ride up to the carriage? –Yes.

Did you see any of the soldiers drawn up on the road to meet the carriage? –I did not.

ANTHONY JONES-A Private in the Artillery.

Was you a sentinel on the 31st of July last, when I came into camp.

Did you see a number of soldiers of the West York, and others, pass your lines on that day? –I saw a number of soldiers of the West York, but whether there were any others or not I don't know.

Did you see a number of the men of the West York and others attend upon the turnpike road; and did you understand they were coming to meet me? –I did not understand at the time they passed me that they were coming to meet you; one of them afterwards told me. As he passed my post,

it was their intention to welcome Colonel Thornton on the ground.

Did you salute me as I passed you? I did, Sir

Did I return the salute? –You did.

Did you see me waive may hat around my head? --I did not see you with your hat off, but when you were returning my salute.

Wm. Thompson, a Private -------

Was you a sentinel on the 31st of July last? – Yes, Sir.

Did you salute me on that day? —Yes

Did I return it? –Yes.

Did you see me make any exertions to prevent the soldiers from taking my horses from the carriage? –Yes, I did.

What were my exertions to prevent the soldiers from taking my horse from the carriages? –Yes, I did.

What were my exertions? --I saw you make several lashes with your whip, to whip the horses along.

What distance might you be from em at that time? –About 100 yards.

Cross-examined.

Do you know where the horses were taken out of the carriage?—Yes, I do: on the right of the quarter guard of the artillery.

Where was your sentry? –On the first private tent on the right of our camp.

Was it on the Turnpike road, or on the green? –On the green.

Do you usually present your arms to officers to officers who have the right to that compliment, when they are at 100 yards distance? –No, Sir.

What distance might you be when you presented your arms? –As near as I can guess, about 60 yards.

Did the carriage pass by the front of the Quarter Guard? –Yes, Sir.

Did it ever approach you nearer than the front of the Quarter Guard? –No, Sir.

By the Court

Did you lose sight of him at any time on that space of ground? –I did not; I kept looking at him that distance or further.

How far are the Devon lines from the Park of Artillery? –I do not know.

William Martin, Servant to Colonel Thornton.

Was you following my carriage on horseback when I came into camp on the 31st of July? –Yes. I was.

Relate what you saw. ---When we were going up the hill, before we came to camp, there was a great number of men assembled together; and when my master got up to them, they stopped him, and frightened the horses, and insisted on taking the horses out. My master begged of them that they would not, and insisted that they should not. He then drove on a little, and the men dispersed a little. Immediately my Lord Downe came up. And spoke to my master, and my master spoke to him. My Lord Downe desired the men to go away about their business; they went away a little. And then returned again, After their return, they wanted to take out the horses; my master insisted they should not, and he struck one or two of them with his whip; then they walked off again, and returned, and

Insisted on having the horse out. They said they were determined to draw my master into camp; my master said they should not, and he whipped one or two of them again with his whip. One of them, I believe, drew the reins out of my master's hand; three of them had hold of the reins; then my Lord Downe came up a second time; he rode against the men when the horses were out. I expected the curricle would have been broken to pieces.

Did you see the men draw up in a body across the road to meet me? –The men were drawn up, but whether to meet you or not, I don't know.

Was the road there hilly? – Yes, it was.

Did you see me return the salutes of the sentinels as I passed? –I don't know whether it was to officers or sentinels; there were officers passing.

Did you attend the carriage from the time I first came to the soldiers of the West York, until they stopped at my marquee? I did.

How near were was you to me during that period? –A very little distance from you all the way.

Was you near enough to see what I did? Yes, Sir.

Can you, upon your oath, say that you never saw me wave my hat during that time? Yes, that I can. Yes, that I can.

Can you say upon your oath, that if I had waved my hat you must have seen it? –To the best of my knowledge I should have seen you if you had waved your hat, as I had so strict an eye upon you all the way.

Was not the curricle considerably jolted by the soldiers, as they relieved each other? –A Great deal.

Did it not appear to you, that there was a probability of its being either broken or overset? – I expected it would have been turned over two of three times.

Cross-examined.

Where was it, that a number of soldiers met Col. Thornton in his carriage? –On the turnpike road.

Where were the horses taken out? On the turf, but I cannot say exactly whereabouts.

Can you upon your oath, say that Colonel Thornton during the passage along the lines, might not have waived his without its being seen by you? –He might, when I was looking another way, but he must have done it very quick, if he did do it, I really think he could not without my seeing it.

Did the soldiers relieve each other in drawing the carriage? –Yes, Sir.

Did this act cause the carriage to stop at all? –No sir, it did not.

Did the carriage ever stop between the time of the horses being taken out and its arrival at Col. T's tent. Yes, Sir; my Lord Downe stopped it when he rode against the men.

Did it ever afterwards stop at all? --No, not at all.

How long did the carriage stop when Lord Downe rode up against it? –A very little time: about one or two minutes.

Were the horse taken from the Carriage before Lord Downe approached then the first time? I believe they were.

How long have you lived with Col. T. ? – Nearly half a year.

Did you hear the soldiers huzza as they went along the lines? Yes, Sir.

Did Col. T. take any notice of the huzzaing? –I did not see him take any notice of it.

If Col. T. had taken any notice of it, do you think you could have seen it? – I think I could.

Captain Ann, West York.

Did you come, at any time, from camp to Canterbury, to inquire, on the part of Lord Downe, whether I was arrived at Canterbury, or expected? –I did not.

Did you come to Canterbury to inform yourself whether I was arrived or expected, and when? –I frequently ride into Canterbury but I did not come on purpose; and I inquired at the Fountain Inn, of the waiter, whether you were you were there or not.

Did you, at any time, inform Lord Downe that I was come, or expected? I did inform Lord Downe I had seen you in Canterbury.

On what day, and at what time did you give Lord Downe that first information? I cannot exactly say the day of the week, but it was the day you arrived in camp, I believe about three o'clock.

Did you give him any information previous to the day? I did not.

Did you not inform Lord Downe prior to my

arrival in camp that I should soon arrive there, or was on the road, or words to that effect? –I told Lord Downe that I had seen you in Canterbury and that I believed you would soon be in camp, this was a little while before you came.

What did Lord Downe do or say on that occasion? –I cannot say what Lord Downe did; he said, very well, or words of no consequence.

Did my Lord Downe at any time intimate to you, that he imagines the soldiers interned to shew me some mark of respect, by drawing me in my carriage, or cheering me? –I do not recollect that he did.

Adjutant Hay, of the West York.

Did you give my Lord Downe any intimation that I was expected in camp, on the 30th or 31st of July? –Not that I recollect.

Did I understand that it was intention of the soldiers of the West York to show me some marks of respect on my arrival at camp? --I heard some days before they intended to draw you into camp.

Did you intimate that to Lord Downe? – No, I did not.

Did you give the Generals any intimation? –I did not.

How long have you been in the regiment? –Since the 12th of February 1794.

Have you not seen the soldiers of the West York huzza, or cheer officers on their joining the regiment? –I have.

What officers; and whether you were one yourself, when the Regiment quartered at

Tiverton, and my Lord Downe, the first time he joined the regiment? – I was.

Was you in Camp at Barham Down when Lord Downe arrived? Did you not hear the soldiers show him some marks of congratulations? To the best of my recollection they gave him three cheers.

Are these the only officers you have seen complimented in the same way? –At present I do not recollect any others.

Do you not recollect that Major Surtees was complimented nearly in the same manner at Tiverton? –I believe that he was, but I believe I was not present on that day.

Were you at Robro' Camp last year when I arrived there? –I was in the regiment, but I do not recollect being in the lines when you arrived.

Were you near the regiment when the men of the West York treated me with the mark of respect, at a time, at Robro' Down Camp? –I cannot swear that I was.

Did you ever hear that the soldier of the West York were in the practice of treating their commanding officers with that mark of respect on joining the regiment? I believe I may have heard so.

Did you ever know of any Field Officers of the regiment being drawn in by the men, either to his tent or to quarters, at any time before the 31st of July? –I heard that you were drawn in by the men, at Tiverton, but I was not there at that time.

Adjutant Hay cross-examined.

Was my Lord Downe huzzaed in the lines of the York, or in any other part of the encampment? –The regiment was drawn out on the evening parade, if I recollect right, under arms.

Was it a brigade day, or one of the days that is called a Colonel's day? To the best of my recollection it was one of those days, not a General's day.

By Colonel Thornton.

Did you take any pains to prevent the soldiers meeting me at any time, and huzzaing me? –I did not, at any time.

Lord Downe.

Had your Lordship any intimation of my arrival in Canterbury, prior to my coming into camp? –I had heard a report, the night before, that you were arrived at Canterbury.

From whom did you receive that intimation? –I cannot positively say, but I believe from Mr. Bracken.

Had you any intimation from Capt. Ann? –I am not quite positive, but I believe I might.

Had you any intimation from Capt. Ann on the morning I arrived at Camp, that I was coming? –I believe Capt. Ann mentioned it to me as a report.

Had your Lordship any intimation that marks of respect or congratulation would be shown to me, by the soldiers, on my arrival at camp. I had heard from Capt. Hankin some time previous to you arrival, that a report of the men

intending to draw you into camp, and that he, Capt. Hankin, either had written, or would write, to apprise you of it.

How long might that be before I came into camp? –I think about the end of June: your original leave of absence expired on the 1st of July.

Had you any intimation from any other person than Captain, prior to my coming into camp, that any particular marks of attention would be shown me? I don't believe I had.

Did my Lordship receive any letters from me at any time? –I received one, dated the 18th of July, and another inclosing a letter from the coach maker, which is already before the Court; no other since I have been in the regiment.

Did your lordship at any time by letter, or in any other mode, testify to me that marks of approbation it was expected I should receive in camp would be offensive to you or the Generals? -- Never, til I met you in your curricle.

Can you say that the words you said to me then, were heard by me? –I think they were; I spoke in such a way as to be heard?

In the confusion there was, might not some words expressed by you that I might not hear? When I first spoke, there was no confusion, the men had not taken the horse from the carriage.

If there was no confusion, for what purpose did your Lordship come up to them, To prevent confusion.

Does you Lordship recollect my intimating that I would do every thing to meet you wishes on that occasion? –I believe you did.

Does your Lordship recollect my waiting upon you immediately after I got out of my carriage? –I found your card in my tent soon after.

Was that the only intimation you had of my calling upon that day? Response deleted.

Did your Lordship, after you left my carriage, converse with any field officers, and whom, between the time of my entering camp, and my arrival at my tent? –I spoke to Lord Corke, soon after I left your carriage the first time.

General Sloper to Lord Downe.

What passed between your Lordship and Lord Corke, when you went up to speak to him? – Soon after my quitting Colonel Thornton's carriage, on the road, I met Lord Corke, who told me he was going to Sir Robert Sloper, and he asked me if I had anything to say to him; and I begged of him to mention that Colonel Thornton was arrived in camp; I believe that was all; Lord Corke was Colonel of the day, that day.

At this time were the horses taken out of the carriage? –They were.

When Colonel Thornton said he would meet your wishes, did he do any thing to meet your wishes? –Nothing that I saw.

Did you see Colonel Thornton at any time on that occasion use his whip to the horse, or the mens? --To neither; the horse went at a foot's pace.

Coronet Plumb, Lancashire Fencibles.

Were you in camp on the 31st of July, when I arrived in camp? –I saw you come into camp that day.

Relate what you saw.---The first thing I saw was Colonel Thornton passing by the lines of the Lancashire fensible cavalry ; I saw him make a low bow on passing, but could not tell for what purpose. I saw the men draw him along as far as the Somerset cavalry; I the went back and got upon my horse, and rode after Colonel Thornton's carriage, but did not overtake it till I got opposite the lines of the West York; I saw him drawn out of the carriage, and the soldiers immediately left him.

Did you see sentries salute me, and I return the salutes as I passed? –No, I did not; I saw you bow several times.

Hoe did it appear to you that I bowed? – You appeared to me to bow with great respect, but I did not see or know to what.

Did you at any time see me wave my hat? – No, Sir, I did not.

Cross-examined.

How near were you to Colonel Thornton when he passed the Lancashire regiment? –About twenty yards, or less.

Did the Lancashire regiment then form the right of the cavalry encampment? –They did; the Scotch Grey were gone.

You have stated that you were about twenty yards off the carriage, did you perceive that Colonel Thornton made any exertions to prevent the men from drawing his carriage? –No, Sir, I did not.

Might not Colonel Thornton have made exertions without seeing him, when he passed you lines? I do not think he could.

Major Surtees, West York

How long have you been in the York Regiment? –I think about twenty-nine years.

Has it been a custom of the Soldiers of the West York to show marks of approbation of the field officers' conduct on their joining the regiment, by huzzaing or cheering? –I don't know that it has been a custom,; I recollect one or two instances.

Relate upon what occasions, and to whom— The first instance was in the last was; and when the regiment was on its march to London from Blackheath; Colonel Harvey was huzzaed; and he then checked the men, and said it was an unmilitary thing.

Cross-examined.

Name any other instance of the men cheering the Field Officers on the occasions? –I recollect last winter, when I joined the regiment, the day that Colonel Thornton came to Tiverton, the men paraded opposite, my quarters, and, as I came out, my company huzzaed; I immediately checked them, and there was no more of it. I recollect no other instance, except when the men drew Colonel Thornton.

When Colonel Thornton was drawn in Tiverton, did the soldiers huzza? The soldiers and those that followed huzzaed, and made a great noise as they came in.

When Col. Thornton arrived at Tiverton was he in command of the West York? –He took the command from me.

Have you any knowledge of any orders of Col. Thornton's, which marks his disapproval of the soldiers drawing him into Tiverton, and huzzaing? –None

Has it been a custom in the York regiment, to draw the Field-Officers upon joining the corps? –No, I never knew it, but in the instance I have mentioned.

By the Court.

Were you in the regiment when Lord Downe first joined it in April last, or when he joined it in its present camp? –I was in the regiment at both times.

Did not the soldier then by huzzaing testify their approbation of my Lord Downes joining them? –Not that I am aware of.

Were you in such a situation, as to hear whether any huzzaing took place on that occasion? –I was very much indisposed at Tiverton, and not in camp at that time.

James Deacon; Sargent in the West York, sworn and examined by the prisoner.

How long have you been in the West York regiment? –Twenty-three years.

Has it been customary for the soldiers to compliment their field officers, by huzzaing them on their joining their regiment? –Yes.

Relate on what occasions you know of such compliments having been paid, and to whom? –To Colonel Harvey, when we were in Manchester; Lieut. Marshall, at the evening parade, went down the ranks, and informed the men that Col. Harvey was come; that he would be at the evening parade

and then he begged that they would give Col. Harvey three huzzas, which they did.

Did Col. Harvey on that occasion, or any other discourage this practice? –Not that I know of.

Do you recollect the same compliment being paid to Col. Harvey at Blackheath, or elsewhere, last war? – I cannot say.

Do you recollect any thing relative to such compliments being shown to field officers at Tiverton? –Yes.

Relate the same? –When Major Surtees came to Tiverton, he was indisposed for a few days; Col. Thornton went from Tiverton to Plymouth; Major Surtees had then the command: previous to his coming to the evening parade, he sent Hasseltine, to acquaint him that he would be coming to the evening parade; there were three huzzas given him when he came; and when the order was given from the right to the left, for three huzzas, some of the men of the light infantry and grenadiers said, they would be damned if they would give him three dumb hollows.

Had you at any time any orders from me to cheer me? None.

Were you at Tiverton, when I came there last year? Yes.

Do you remember the men meeting me a mile from the town; on the wishing to draw me in, did I nor repeatedly decline it? Yes, and you begged they would let your horses alone, and let you go in quietly; they said, they did not care, they would draw you in.

Do your recollect Lord Downe huzzaed? -Yes

Did Lord Down, either by public orders or otherwise, disapprove of it? –Not to my knowledge.

Cross-examined.

Do you do duty in the West York, as a Sargent? –No.

How long is it since you did duty in it as a Sargent? –Never since I was sworn in.

Who made you a Sergeant? –Colonel Harvey; I belonged to Captain Sand's company.

Do you recollect any other field officers having their horse taken from the carriage; and drawn by the men? –Not to my knowledge.

By Colonel Thornton.

Was my company at Tiverton, when I arrived? —I can't rightly say.

Major-General Adean

Did you receive any report on the 31st of July last, relative to me, and from whom? –No, Sir, I did not.

Was any report delivered, through you to General Sloper, relative to my being drawn into camp on that day, or relative to my absence? –No.

Did you receive any report, on the 1st of August last, relative to me? –Yes, I received a report from the Colonel of the Day (Lord Corke).

Report delivered in, Lieutenant-Colonel Thornton, of the West York, was drawn into camp, in a carriage, by the men of the West York regiment, with much noise and huzzaing, on the 31st of July. Signed Corke, Col.

At what o'clock did you receive that report? --Between ten and eleven, that is the usual time.

Is it not customary for the Colonel of the day to report to you of General Norton, and from either of you to General Sloper?—The Field Officer of the day reports to the Major-General of the day, and Major-General of the day to the General.

At what hour of the day did you deliver the report to General Sloper? —About ten or eleven o'clock.

Captain Torre, West York

How long have you been in the West York regiment? –About Thirteen years.

Were you at Tiverton in December last, when I came there? –I was not the first time you joined; I came a few days after you.

Was my company there then? I do not positively recollect.

Do you remember Major Surtees was huzzaed at Tiverton? I do not, I was not present.

Were you were present at any time when any field officers were huzzaed by the men? – I was when Lord Downe was huzzaed at Tiverton: he was not huzzaed on the parade.

Were you present when Lord Downe was huzzaed in the encampment? I was not.

Benjamin Foverman, Sadler, Canterbury.

Were you in camp on the 31st of July, when I came in? I was in camp when you joined the regiment.

Relate to the Court what you saw? –On the day I was at Mt. Lacey's Mess-house; Mr. Lacey came in, and informed me that Colonel Thornton was coming to join his regiment. I went out with Mr. Lacey to join the front of the York lines, when we saw Colonel Thornton at some distances in his curricle, drawn by a great many soldiers; the soldiers; as they came nearer to me, the soldiers, at different times huzzaed; when Col. Thornton came up to his marquee, he spoke to the soldiers, and they retired, the soldiers saying (many of them) that he was a good man.

*At what distance were you able to see me a-*drawing? I suppose it might be about two or three hundred yards.

Did you see me wave my hat? --I did not.

Were you looking at me with attention? – Yes, I was.

Had I waived my hat, do you think you should have seen me? I think I might have seen you, if you had.

By the Court.

Did you see Colonel Thornton take off his carriage hat? —At the time he got out of his carriage, desiring the men to go away.

Mr. Lacey, the Mess-man of the West York.

Were you on the ground of encampment, when I was drawn into camp? Yes, I was.

(60)

Relate what you saw and heard? –There happened to be a cricket match at Bridge Hall House, and as I was there, I saw Col. Thornton go by in his curricle. Conceiving that when he came to camp he might want some refreshment, I followed him, and by his uniform I supposed it was Col. Thornton, as he was expected that afternoon. I then I rode forward, and passed Col. Thornton. I then met a number of men, privates of the West York. I asked the men where they were going. They said they were going to meet their Lieutenant Colonel. Out of curiosity I went back with them; when they got near to his carriage they ran up to the heads of his horses and gave several huzzas; and when they had done, Colonel Thornton addressed them, and I believe nearly in these words, as well as I can recollect: "My good lads, how have you done since I saw you last; I have had a long journey in search of you. The then began to un-harness his horses. Colonel Thornton said, don't do that by any means, but permit me to pass quietly; or words to that effect. Colonel Thornton endeavored to hit his horses that they might go on; but the men were so thick about the heads of the horses, that I am sure, at that time he could not proceed; Lord Downe then came up, and I went to camp.

Did you afterwards return and see me in my carriage? –I went to the front of the York lines, and saw you drawn by the men about the centre of the Devonshire regiment. Did you see me at any time salute? –When the men huzzaed, I saw you repeatedly wave your hat, seemingly through respect.

Did you see any sentry's salute? –I can't say, I did.

Did you see me salute my officers? No.

Might I not be saluting sentries of officers, though you did not see me? –Certainly you might.

Did you see me at any time wave my hat round my head? –No, I did not.

[Here ended the whole of evidence on this momentous Trial.]

COURT MARTIAL

COLONEL THORNTON'S SPEECH

Upon the final close of evidence upon this Trial, COLONEL THORNTON addressed the Court in a speech, as nearly as possible to the following effect:

"Mr. President, and Gentleman of the honorable court.

"When I consider the great length to which this Trial has been protracted, the immense mass of tedious and irksome evidence, which has been examined, and the unwearied pains and attention used by you throughout the whole of it, --it would surely be very unbecoming in me to trespass long upon your indulgence by offering any tedious or uninteresting observations which do not naturally result from a review of the nature and circumstances of this trail: Influenced, therefore, by these considerations, it will be my endeavor (as it is sincerely my wish) to keep in unison with the court, by steering clear of every thing that might have a tendency to give uneasiness to your feelings. In the situation, however, in which I stand—brought to trial upon charges which (in my mind) are the slightest, most insignificant, and frivolous, that ever were exhibited against any man; impressed with the strongest suspicion and belief that those charges are the offspring of the illnature and malice of my enemies, and they were transmitted to the General from the same mischievous and malignant motives; scrupulously jealous of my honor as an Officer and a Gentleman; and, above all, conscious of my innocence: --in such circumstances, and under such impressions, if, in the course of the observations, which I am now about to offer, any harsh or unguarded expressions should accidently escape me, I am sure the candor of this Court will make me every just and reasonable allowance.

As to the First Charge, permit me to observe that I trust I have made it appear, by the clearest testimony, that my not strictly complying with the orders to join my regiment was purely the consequence of an accident, which unfortunately befell me in my hurry of obedience to that order: -—-that, upon the accident happening, I paid every due attention to the Colonel (Lord Downe and to General Norton, by immediately Stating to them, by letter, the cause of my absence and delay: -that, had I not had the most confident assurances from the coach maker, that my carriage would be completely repaired in the course of a few hours, I should have taken another mode of conveyance down to camp: -that I sent my valet, and all my linen, on before me to Canterbury by Lieutenant Brigges, and thereby deprived myself of the use of a servant to attend me, and of the opportunity of a change of linen; which demonstrates my determined intention to join my regiment without delay. But, Gentlemen, these are for from the most material observations which shall have the honour of offering to your consideration: If you consider that, for the space of nineteen months, I have only been a few days at my own home —-that my' private-affairs, and those of the- greatest moment to me, have been, during all that time, almost wholly neglected, and that consequently they are now in a state of the greatest derangement and confusion—-that my estate and fortune have sustained (and still are sustaining) very considerable injuries, on account of my absence; and that all this has been occasioned by my zeal for the military service and the public good: --I say, if those considerations have that weight with you, which I think they ought to have upon the mind of every man who has any stake in this country, you cannot possibly convict me for being absent only four days beyond my time; especially as my services could not be very material, there being two Field Officers then with the regiment. But this is not all: —I will assert boldly, because I am confident of the truth of the assertion, that this trial has given a deep and dangerous wound to the Militia Service. What! Are Country Gentlemen of fortune, who are in the militia service, to be called to a great distance from their homes, even to the different extremities of the kingdom? --Are they to withdraw all attention from their domestic concerns and suffer their estates and fortunes to fall to ruin and decay; —-are they not to be allowed the necessary time to arrange and adjust them? -—-Are they to be treated with the same military severity and rigor as the officers of the regular regiments? —-Are they to be brought to trial for unintentional (and, therefore, the most venial) offences? -—-If so, Militia Officers will abandon the service in disgust and there would soon be an end of our Militia--that best, because it is the molt Constitutional, Defence of this Country.

Gentlemen, permit me to observe further, that there is a very wide distinction between a Regular and a Militia Officer: The character, the occupation, the profession of the former, is solely that of an *Officer*, and the pay which the state affords him is generally the principal fund of his subsistence; where his regiment is, there is his home—the motto best suited to his character and circumstances is, *Omnia mea mecum porto*! [All that is mine, I carry with me]. How different the character and situation of the latter? -- His genuine and natural character is that of a *Country Gentleman*, who has a stake in the country--who has an estate to superintend and cultivate, the neglect of which becomes ruinous to himself and detrimental to the State: in times of war and danger, he relinquishes his domestic concerns and comforts, steps boldly forward, animated with the spirit of pure and genuine patriotism, and takes up arms in the defence of his King and Country.

In such circumstances, surely some more than common indulgence ought to be allowed to Militia Officers: ——To treat *them* with severity and rigor, is imprudent and impolitic: it must disgust them, and in the end dissolve our militia--and what then becomes the sole defence of the liberties of Englishman? —-a *standing army*, and *barracks*: springing up like mushrooms in the country! It is true: a standing army is a great and powerful establishment; it carries into execution, with irresistible force, the laws of the Sovereign throughout the empire; but let it be observed, that it may also establish his *tyranny*! —Let it be remembered, that a standing army has been more than once made the instrument to destroy the liberties of a free people—-the standing army of CAESAR destroyed the liberties of *Rome*—that of CROMWELL the liberties of *England*-—that of PISISTRATUS the liberties of *Athens*!

Gentlemen, let me finally observe to you, that we cannot have any permanent security for our liberties without a well-regulated Militia, as it is the barrier between *the riot of the people* and the *tyranny of the Crown*-—as it operates as a counterpoise to the standing army, and thereby maintains equilibrium of military power in the kingdom.

Gentlemen acquit me, then, of those Charges; and show to your country that you are the steady guardians of its Freedom, by being the zealous supporters of the Militia.

THE VERDICT

"On the day appointed by Lieutenant-General SLOPER and the other Generals, Lieutenant-Colonel THORNTON proceeded to camp at eleven o'clock. The West York regiment, after some consultation, were formed into a mathematical figure somewhat resembling a square, by Lord DOWNE, their newly-appointed Colonel; the men were directed to order their arms; a *profound and solemn silence ensued*; and (the Officers being uncovered)

Lieutenant-General Sloper read the charges, and then pronounced the *Sentence of the Court Martial*, nearly in the following words:

"LIEUTENANT-COLONEL THORNTON,

"*It is my duty to inform you that the Court have found you* GUILTY *on* BOTH the CHARGES *exhibited against you, and their* SENTENCE *is*, That you be publicly reprimanded!; *and* I do hereby, *in obedience to their orders*, reprimand you *accordingly*!"

"After which, Lieutenant-Colonel T. with equal solemnity spoke to the following effect:

"Sir, the very elegant and graceful manner in which you have delivered my sentence compels me in gratitude to assure you that I have the highest sense of the honour done me on this occasion: — entertaining the highest esteem and veneration for your professional knowledge, permit me, Sir, to ask you what steps you would advise me to take, should the soldiers of the York regiment, or of any other, from their zeal, be prompted at any future time to pay me a similar compliment, by huzzaing and drawing me into camp or elsewhere?

"Was it to happen to me. Sir, replied GENERAL SLOPER, I would break my neck! — or (agreeable to some present) the reply was, "I would break their necks," meaning the necks of the soldiers.

"Excuse me. Sir,' replied Colonel Thornton, "I think that would be carrying the joke a little too far."

Parturiunt Montes nascitur ridiculus Mus.
[Much ado about nothing]

[Colonel Thomas Thornton promptly sent in his resignation and spent the rest of his life pursuing sport and conviviality]

Heraldic Arms of Lt. Colonel Thornton

The bookplate illustrates eight "quartered" Arms
This is a method of joining several different arms together in one shield by dividing the shield into equal parts and placing the different arms a person is entitled to bear in each division.

The Arms of Colonel Thornton are in the first and eight quarters
Top Row are: Thornton, Savile, Myster, Ames.
Bottom Row: Norton, Wentworth, Armitage, Thornton.

Latin Inscriptions:
La Verite Gagnera -"The True Winner."
Le Protecteur et L'Idole Soldats- "The Protector and the Idol of Soldiers."
Fiez Vous En Nous-"We trust you."

blurb

Colonel Thomas Thornton of Thornville Royal

Colonel Thornton with his Greyhound *Major*
and Gyrfalcon *Sans Quartier*